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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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1. According to statistics compiled in 1949

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25X1 Rumanian "Volksduetsche" is as follows:

- 25X1 A. Saxons and Swabians
- 25X1 12,000 in Bavaria
- 3,000 in Wurttemberg
- 24,000 in Austria
- 3,000 in various other countries
- 100,000 in Rumania
- B. Germans of Bucovina
- 42,000 in West Germany
- 13,000 in East Germany
- 20,500 in various other countries
- 14,000 in Austria
- 3,000 in Rumania

These figures are quite accurate and can still be accepted as of September 1953.

- C. According to objective analyses, the situation of the "Volksdeutsche" descendants of Bessarabia and Dobrogea is allegedly as follows:

About 8,000 from Bessarabia in West Germany

About 6,000 from Bessarabia in East Germany

About 4,000 from Dobrogea in West Germany

About 5,000 from Dobrogea in East Germany

In Rumania and other countries the dispersion of the "Volksdeutsche" in these groups represents a lesser number which can be considered negligible.

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2. Observations

A. From the religious point of view, the Saxons from Transylvania and the Germans from Bessarabia and Dobrogea can be classified as belonging to the Lutheran Church, while the Swabians from Banat and the Germany from Bucovina are partly Roman Catholic and partly Lutheran.

B. Germans from Bucovina, Bessarabia and Dobrogea left for Rumania in the autumn of 1940 under the following circumstances:

1. After the German-Soviet agreement of 23 August 1939, which established among other things zones of influence of contracting parties, the Soviet Union took possession of her Polish zone (September-October 1939). She then began to put diplomatic pressure on the Reich's Chancellory in order to also obtain the annexation of Bessarabia which is the Rumanian province between the Dniester and Prut Rivers and has 3,000,000 inhabitants.
2. After the problem was settled secretly on the diplomatic level with Germany, an ultimatum was sent to the Rumanian Government on 28 June 1940, in which the Rumanian authorities were ordered to evacuate the territories of Bessarabia and Northern Bucovina. Soviet troops then occupied these provinces. In September 1940 a public German-Soviet agreement consented to the German repatriation of the "Volksdeutsche" elements in Bessarabia and Northern Bucovina.
3. While the transport of the "Volksdeutsche" in these provinces was being effected the Germans were putting pressure on the Rumanian Government to force it to repatriate the "Volksdeutsche" in Southern Bucovina and Dobrogea. Germany offered to pay the repatriated individuals the value of the property they would leave in Rumania. The Rumanian Government of General Ion Antonescu yielded to these pressures in the autumn of 1940. This government had been installed after the coup d'etat of 6 September 1940 (abdication of King Carol II), and was dominated by Iron Guardist elements who advocated the "Legionnaire revolution" and found itself in chaos resulting from the political overthrow and new territorial losses. The repatriated persons were given farm lands in Western Poland, Bohemia and Moravia, regions occupied by the Germans. They fled to Western Germany after evacuating these territories at the same time the German Army did. At the present time they have the status of German refugees who have come from German provinces that are occupied or dominated by the Communists.

C. Most of the Saxons and Swabians now in Western Germany arrived there as soldiers enlisted in the German Army and were then demobilized or taken out of captivity. One group who were descendants of Northern Transylvania, withdrew with German troops after the capitulation of Rumania on 23 August 1944. Another category is formed by those who fled clandestinely after the end of the war (official German statistics list 1070 cases in 1950, 1951 and 1952). A third group comprises those who voluntarily entered the German Army as refugees when the German troops were retreating, and these are the confirmed pro-German elements who at that period were naturally adherents to National-Socialism. It is observed that Nazism has been feebly represented among the Bucovina Germans and is non-existent in the groups from Bessarabia and Dobrogea. The acceptance by these groups of repatriation in Germany comes from their fear of the Communist-Soviet regime and not from love of the Nazi regime.

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D. Of all the Rumanian "Volksdeutsche" groups the Germans of Bucovina hold a special importance, not only because they are the most numerous in Western Germany, but also because the group includes a valuable and forceful intellectual class, at least in normal proportion to other classes. The Germans of Bessarabia and Dobrogea have no intellectuals, even in Rumania.

3. Organizations and Political Trends

A. At the end of the war, economic chaos and privations of all sorts contributed to the foundation and development of organizations concerned with relief. However, after the monetary reform of Germany in July 1948 the economic situation improved, these organizations lost their interest and, although they still exist, similar organizations of a political character have been developed.

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C. In the spring of 1949, organizations of a political nature were constituted from "Volksdeutsche" groups from all the southeast countries. They were incorporated into two large unions:

1. "Zentralverband Vertriebener Deutschen" in which there is no Rumanian "Volksdeutsche" organization, but only German refugees from territories lost by the Germans to the East and whose politics coincide with German aspirations of reestablishment of former boundary lines, from the Reich to the East.
2. "Verband der Landsmannschaften" which comprises 16 organizations of German refugees and of "Volksdeutsche" groups into which are integrated the following Rumanian groups:

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I. From the Rumanian point of view, the "Verband der Landsmannschaften" groups could collaborate with Rumanian organizations, because on the one hand, the Saxons and the Swabians believe it's possible that Transylvania and Banat might become Hungarian territories; on the other hand, the German descendants of Bucovina and Bessarabia think it's possible that their territories may remain Ukrainian provinces.

J. Insofar as anti-Communism is concerned, the order prevailing is that the "Landsmannschaft" association must abstain from anti-Communistic (provocative) manifestations because their countrymen and their families remaining in Rumania would suffer from reprisals. Counsel to this effect has been adopted in all the regional assemblies or general congresses and even in the resolutions voted upon in the congresses of the past years.

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